

FILED

JUN - 3 2020

Clerk of Superior Court of California,
County of Sonoma

By *M. Lemley*
Deputy Clerk

1 HONORABLE BRADFORD J. DEMEO
2 PRESIDING JUDGE
3 SONOMA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
4 600 Administration Drive
5 Santa Rosa, CA 95403

7
8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9 COUNTY OF SONOMA

10
11 IN RE: Order to Cease Transport of Inmates to
12 Any Sonoma County Superior Courtroom

13
14
15 Pursuant to emergency authority and to protect the health and safety of all persons in
16 Sonoma County Courthouses, the Presiding Judge of Sonoma County Superior Court finds and
17 orders as follows:

18 On March 16, 2020, and in consideration of the public health crisis currently affecting
19 our state, local, national, and international communities, the Sonoma County Superior Court
20 issued an order limiting access to the Hall of Justice, Civil and Family Courthouse, the Juvenile
21 Justice Center and the Empire Annex.

22 On March 16, 2020, this Court issued an emergency implementing order under the
23 authority of the March 16, 2020 Order of Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair of the
24 Judicial Council of California, issued in response to the March 16, 2020 request for an
25 emergency order made by the Superior Court of Sonoma County pursuant to Government Code §
26 68115.

27 On March 17, 2020, the County of Sonoma Public Health Officer issued an order
28 directing all individuals living in Sonoma County to shelter at their place of residence except that

1 they may leave to provide or receive certain essential services or engage in certain essential
2 activities and work for essential businesses and governmental services to mitigate the spread of
3 COVID-19.

4 On March 19, 2020, the Governor of California issued an order directing all Californians
5 to shelter in place at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of
6 operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors to protect public health and ensure the
7 healthcare delivery system is capable of serving all and prioritizing those at the highest risk and
8 vulnerability.

9 On March 23, 2020, Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair of the Judicial Council
10 of California, issued a statewide order addressing additional issues raised by the ongoing
11 pandemic.

12 On March 27, 2020, this Court issued a supplemental emergency implementing order
13 under the authority of the March 27, 2020 Order of Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye, Chair
14 of the Judicial Council of California, pursuant to Government Code § 68115. On March 28,
15 2020, the Judicial Council of California unanimously approved recommendations which have
16 been enacted statewide by Order of the Chief Justice on March 30, 2020.

17 On April 1, 2020 this Court issued a General Order Re: Implementation of Emergency
18 Relief Authorized by Chair of Judicial Council.

19 On April 6, 2020, the Judicial Council adopted Emergency Rules 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,
20 10, and 11 of the California Rules of Court. On April 17, 2020, the Judicial Council adopted
21 Emergency Rule 12, and on April 20, 2020 adopted Emergency Rule 13 of the California Rules
22 of Court. A full set of the Emergency Rules to date are attached hereto as Exhibit A-1.

23 On April 16, 2020 the Court issued Omnibus General Order of the Presiding Judge re
24 Court Operations.

25 On April 27, 2020 the Court issued a First Amended Omnibus General Order re Court
26 Operations.

1 Essential functions of the Superior Court at this time are limited to proceedings that are
2 required to comply with defendants' constitutional rights, protect the health and safety of parties
3 and address jail population concerns.

4 Protection of public health and safety in connection with the COVID-19 threat has
5 resulted or is expected to result in significant interference with Superior Court services and
6 proceedings.

7 The Court has confirmed that an inmate in the Sonoma County Jail has tested positive for
8 the COVID-19 virus, and was personally present in Courtroom 15 of the Sonoma County
9 Superior Court on May 27, 2020, at approximately 1:30 p.m.

10 Accordingly, and for the foregoing reasons, under the authority granted to me by the
11 Chief Justice in her orders pursuant to Government Code, section 68115 dated March 16, 2020
12 and March 30, 2020, and her statewide orders dated March 23, 2020 and March 30, 2020, and for
13 good cause shown, this court **HEREBY FINDS AND ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:**

14
15 **Until further notice, the Sonoma County Jail shall cease transport of any inmate to**
16 **any Sonoma County Superior Courtroom. All court calendars shall be called with remote**
17 **appearance by all inmates until further notice.**

18
19
20 It is so ORDERED.

21
22 Dated: June 3, 2020

23 
24 _____
25 BRADFORD J. DEMEO
26 PRESIDING JUDGE
27 SONOMA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
28